

The tough hand that so many have been dealt did not keep the South Dakota Stockgrowers from coming together and donating bale after bale of hay to those Lemmon ranchers.

When asked why they came to the rescue, Scott Edoff of the South Dakota Stockgrowers said: Nobody asks. We just do it. That is part of our culture, part of our community.

Mr. Speaker, that sentiment did not surprise me in the least. That is South Dakota. And that is what I call unity.

HIGHLIGHTING ACTION BY CONGRESSIONAL STEEL CAUCUS

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to highlight the action of the bipartisan Congressional Steel Caucus.

Earlier this week, the Steel Caucus leaders and 47 other members of the caucus sent a letter to the Biden-Harris administration that expressed our strong support for the continuation of section 232 steel tariffs and quotas.

The letter noted how we work hand-in-hand with industry and labor organizations and that we recognize the negative impact that unfair trade and global steel overcapacity have had on my district and the Nation over the years.

These steel tariffs and quotas, which were implemented to protect our national security, have resulted in significant reductions in imports. We must continue to do all we can to ensure that our Nation supports the domestic steel industry and our American steelworkers.

I look forward to continuing to engage with the Steel Caucus members, all of my colleagues, and the Biden-Harris administration to ensure that the American steel industry remains the foundation of our national economy and our national security.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF HENRY LOUIS "HANK" AARON

(Mr. CARL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and the legend of Henry Louis "Hank" Aaron, a native of Mobile, Alabama.

Hammering Hank is a baseball legend respected not only for his performance on the field but also for being a civil rights icon who helped pave the way for equality in professional sports.

Hank Aaron is one of the greatest baseball players of all time. He became the first player in major league history to record 500 home runs and over 3,000 hits, ultimately defeating Babe Ruth's home run record.

Hank Aaron's leadership and character reflect the best of American values, and his legacy will live on for generations. I am proud to call him a fellow Mobilian.

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICANS

(Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, my district is home to breathtaking mountains, incredible diversity, and rich history. To understand my district, you must know not only its beauty but also its poverty and promise.

We must create opportunities in places like my district with tremendous challenges but also endless potential: create opportunities for countless New Mexicans who lost their jobs, create opportunities for essential workers who risk their lives to keep our country running, and recognize that education is the key to realize the promise of our communities.

That is why the first bill I co-lead, the Learning Recovery Act, will create opportunities for the most educationally disadvantaged students, who are falling further behind because of the pandemic. This bill will address the disparities we know too well in New Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask us to always work to empower our communities; protect my State's beauty, diversity, and people; and unleash the potential we know we have.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CONGRESSMAN JIM RAMSTAD

(Mr. EMMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, as we begin this new session of Congress, I rise today to honor the memory and legacy of my friend, Minnesota Congressman Jim Ramstad.

For nearly two decades, Jim represented the people of Minnesota's Third Congressional District. Sadly, after so many years of service to his country and community, Jim lost his fight with Parkinson's just a few months ago.

Jim was a true public servant, a lawmaker whose passion for his work only made him more effective. He was a tireless champion for any person who needed his help, even if they were a stranger. He was truly a leader guided by his compassion for others.

Although Jim and I never served together, he was a personal friend of my wife, Jacquie, and me for 40 years. And today, his legacy shapes my work.

As a fellow Minnesotan, I am proud to continue his monumental work on addiction and mental healthcare by introducing legislation that will bring care to those who need it most.

I am also happy to support a bill to name the Wayzata Post Office after Jim, a physical memorial to his work and legacy in the State and the town that he loved so much. The monument is a fitting tribute, but his lasting leg-

acy will always be the impact he made on millions of Americans.

Thank you, Jim. You will be missed, but you will never be forgotten.

CREATING PATHWAYS FOR HARDWORKING PEOPLE

(Mr. HORSFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the National Apprenticeship Act of 2021.

I started my career leading the Culinary Academy of Las Vegas, the largest job training program in the State. This experience instilled in me the importance of workforce programs that create pathways for hardworking people to get good-paying jobs.

Passing this legislation is a vital step to begin our economic recovery by training Nevadans for new careers in high-demand fields, including at the Westside Education and Training Center in historic west Las Vegas, which my office was just able to secure nearly \$7 million to help build.

By providing nearly 1 million additional apprenticeship opportunities over 5 years, and adding \$10.6 billion in net benefits to our economy, the National Apprenticeship Act will help working families and small businesses restore the financial security that was lost during the pandemic.

As a co-chair and founder of the Labor Caucus, I am proud to support this legislation, which is endorsed by some of our Nation's largest labor unions, including the AFL-CIO, UNITE HERE, the Laborers, and the Teamsters.

I am glad that my amendment to support the recruitment and retention of nontraditional apprenticeship populations, including women and people of color, is included in this bill. My constituents and all of our constituents deserve the opportunities this bill affords.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the National Apprenticeship Act of 2021.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF HINCKLEY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE RAY SCHULTE

(Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Hinckley Township Trustee Ray Schulte.

Serving our community as a township trustee for 12 years, Ray defined what it means to be a public servant who always puts the community and the people he loves first.

In addition to his service on the board, Ray was involved in many different aspects of the township, in particular, the historical society, among many others, including local charities. Ray truly loved his community and

was passionate about making it a better place.

Hinckley Township will certainly miss Ray's leadership, service, and positive outlook on life, though his work will forever be memorialized in our community. Ray's leadership will certainly be missed but never forgotten.

I pray for Ray's wife of 29 years, Emma, who serves as chief deputy recorder of Medina County and is a constant presence for so many people in the Medina Courthouse.

May God bless their three children, Michael, Christie, and Adam, and their four grandchildren during this challenging time. It is truly an honor to recognize such an individual whose class and love for community made us all better people.

IMPROVING DISTRIBUTION OF COVID-19 VACCINES

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, across the United States, Americans are finally seeing the administration of COVID-19 vaccines improve after a slow rollout.

The development of two highly effective vaccines in under 1 year is an unprecedented scientific accomplishment, but this effort is only truly recognized when we can get vaccine into the arm of every American who wants it.

That is why the first piece of legislation I introduced this year, the Coronavirus Vaccine and Therapeutic Development Act, would dramatically boost Federal investment in manufacturing and distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine.

There is no greater public health priority than getting this vaccine into the arms of every American, and I am committed to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to ensure the equitable distribution of the vaccine.

To improve the facilitation of vaccine distribution, I have also introduced bipartisan legislation with my colleague, Dr. LARRY BUCSHON, that would improve and expand information-sharing between State and Federal governments to ensure that vaccines are being administered effectively and efficiently.

I urge my colleagues to join both of these bills so that we can save lives and get our economy back on track.

□ 0915

HONORING DR. LARRY DEBOER

(Mr. BAIRD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Purdue University professor Dr. Larry DeBoer. I had the opportunity to work with Dr. DeBoer as a

member of Purdue Extension Service as an Indiana State representative and as a farmer.

Dr. DeBoer recently retired from Purdue after 36 years of teaching economics. His tenure at Purdue is distinguished and worthy of recognition. Every semester, he taught 200 to 400 students macroeconomics. In addition to that, he has authored macroeconomics textbooks for universities.

Dr. DeBoer was recognized for his outstanding teaching with numerous awards, like the Charles B. Murphy Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award in 2015 and the Richard L. Kohls Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher Award in 2014.

In addition to being a professor, Dr. DeBoer has advised and worked with the Indiana Legislative Services Agency on tax and finance issues, and has worked on former Governor Mitch Daniels' Commission on Local Government Reform.

The State of Indiana has benefited greatly from his deep knowledge and expertise in the State's economic affairs. I want to wish Dr. DeBoer the very best in his retirement.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 5, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 5, 2021, at 7:58 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 5.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

ROBERT F. REEVES,
Deputy Clerk.

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP ACT OF 2021

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 85, I call up the bill (H.R. 447) to amend the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly referred to as the "National Apprenticeship Act") and expand the national apprenticeship system to include apprenticeships, youth apprenticeships, and pre-apprenticeship registered under such Act, to promote the furtherance of labor standards necessary to safeguard the welfare of apprentices, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 85, the amendment printed in part A of House Report 117-3, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 447

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Apprenticeship Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall take effect beginning on October 1, 2021.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENT.

The Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly referred to as the "National Apprenticeship Act"; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.), is amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

"(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the 'National Apprenticeship Act'.

"(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

"Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

"Sec. 2. Definitions.

"Sec. 3. Programs under the national apprenticeship system.

"Sec. 4. Transition provisions.

"Sec. 5. Disaggregation of data.

"Sec. 6. Relation to other laws.

"TITLE I—PROMOTING PROGRAMS UNDER THE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM

"Subtitle A—The Office of Apprenticeship, State Registration Agency Approval Process, and Interagency Agreement

"Sec. 111. The Office of Apprenticeship.

"Sec. 112. National Advisory Committee on Apprenticeships.

"Sec. 113. State apprenticeship agencies and State Offices of Apprenticeship.

"Sec. 114. Interagency agreement with Department of Education.

"Subtitle B—Process and Standards for the National Apprenticeship System

"Sec. 121. Apprenticeable occupations standards.

"Sec. 122. Quality standards of programs under the national apprenticeship system.

"Sec. 123. Apprenticeship agreements.

"Sec. 124. Registration of programs under the national apprenticeship system.

"Subtitle C—Evaluations and Research

"Sec. 131. Program evaluations.

"Sec. 132. National apprenticeship system research.

"Subtitle D—General Provisions

"Sec. 141. Authorization of appropriations.

"TITLE II—MODERNIZING THE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM FOR THE 21ST CENTURY GRANTS

"Sec. 201. Grant requirements.

"Sec. 202. Uses of Funds.

"Sec. 203. Grant evaluations.

"Sec. 204. Grant appropriations.

"SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

"In this Act:

"(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term 'Administrator' means the Administrator of the Office of Apprenticeship established under section 111(a).

"(2) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The term 'Advisory Committee' means the National Advisory Committee on Apprenticeships established under section 112.

"(3) APPRENTICE.—The term 'apprentice' means a program participant in an apprenticeship program.

"(4) APPRENTICESHIP AGREEMENT.—The term 'apprenticeship agreement' means a written agreement under section 123 between—

"(A) an apprentice, a youth apprentice, or a pre-apprentice; and

"(B) a sponsor.